Appl. No. 09/941,300 Amdt. dated May 18, 2005 Reply to Office action of February 18, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please substitute Figs. 4-7, 8, 10 and 12 with the enclosed replacement drawings.

Appl. No. 09/941,300 Amdt. dated May 18, 2005 Reply to Office action of February 18, 2005

REMARKS

In Item 1 of the Office Action of February 18, 2005, the Declaration was objected to as not being in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) because it does not identify the mailing address of each inventor. Applicants are locating the inventors and will forward a substitute declaration identifying the mailing address of each inventor as soon as it is available.

In Item 2 of the Office Action, the specification was objected to. Paragraph [2] is amended herewith to fill in the blanks with the serial number and filing date of the related application.

In Item 3 of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to. The Examiner asserted that Figures 4-9 should be designated as prior art. Replacement Sheets enclosed herewith include Figures 4-6 and 8, amended to include a "prior art" designation. Applicant submits that Figure 7 does not show only that which is old. It is noted that Figure 9 as filed already included the "prior art" designation. It is further noted that in the formal drawings submitted on November 26, 2001, Figure 10 erroneously included the designation, "Prior Art." Applicant submits that Figure 10 is not prior art, as clearly indicated by the text referencing Figure 10 in paragraphs [28] and [51]. Furthermore, the informal drawings filed with the application on August 27, 2001, did not include the "prior art" designation for Figure 10. Applicant encloses herewith a Replacement Sheet for Figure 10 which removes the "prior art" designation, as well as correcting some errors in the drawings. A Replacement Sheet is also enclosed herewith for Figure 12, making some minor corrections.

In Item 4 of the Office Action, claims 1-14 were provisionally rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over copending application serial number 09/946,648. Because this is only a provisional rejection, and because the present application is believed to otherwise be in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the provisional double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

In Item 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-14 were objected to because of informalities in the claim language. Claims 1, 4-9 and 12-14 are amended herewith to comply with these objections.

(

Appl. No. 09/941,300 Amdt. dated May 18, 2005 Reply to Office action of February 18, 2005

Based on the foregoing, the specification, claims 1-14 and the drawings are believed to be in condition for allowance and the Applicants respectfully request notification of same.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Date: May 18, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Wiberg Reg. No. 44,401

Attorney for applicant

McANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD. 500 W. Madison, Suite 3400

Chicago, IL 60661 Telephone: (312) 775-8000